

PROCESSING UNIT

OCT

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

This material contains information affecting the National Defense of the United States within the meaning of the Espionage Laws, Title 18, U.S.C. Secs. 793 and 794, the transmission or revelation of which in any manner to an unauthorized person is prohibited by law.

SECRET

25X1

COUNTRY Poland

REPORT

SUBJECT Agricultural and Administrative
Planning in Poznan Voivodship,
critique.

DATE DISTR.

14 OCT 1957

NO. PAGES

1

REQUIREMENT
NO.

RD

DATE OF
INFO.

REFERENCES

25X1

PLACE &
DATE ACQ.

25X1

SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE

speech said to have been delivered by the
Chairman of the Academic Committee of the Poznan District (Voivodship)
Economic Planning Committee in June 1957, concerning agricultural and
administrative planning in Poznan Voivodship.

14 OCT 1957

25X1

10 OCT 1957
20 NOV 1957

Ly/so

SECRET

Incl. att.

W
W

STATE	X	ARMY	X	NAVY	X	AIR	X	FBI		AEC									
(Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#".)																			

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

SECRET

1. After WW II, there were a number of changes in the administrative structure of Poland favorable to the over-all development of the productive strength in the Poznan district. The incorporation of the Western Territories made Poland a more industrial state, there came about a development of the agricultural industry and agriculture in general in the Poznan District, and in view of the fact that this area was less damaged, it had to carry a large part of the burden of re-building and administering the Western Territories and Warsaw. However, in 1949, there were policy changes in the administration of the state which were disadvantageous and catastrophic for the Poznan District. The direction of investment chiefly to heavy industry, the distribution of investment in the 6-year plan, the socialization of villages coupled with discrimination against private landholders led to the devastation and decline in agricultural and farm produce industries. This industry was completely ruined or deteriorated to the point of devastation. The only exceptions were the sugar industry and processing of garden fruit which increased in size.

2. One of the outstanding examples of the decline of the agricultural industry are the distilleries which in 1956 produced hardly 8.6 million liters of pure alcohol, that is 27% of the 1937 production. Similarly, with the carving industry (platkarstwo) and starch flour industry (krochmalnictwo), with the production of quality vodkas, with the meat canning and dairy products industries. On the other hand, the milling industry increased the amount of wheat flour but unfortunately not in the small centers which are directly tied to agriculture but rather in areas of large population such as Poznan and a few larger cities in the District.

3. Incalculable damage to the economy of the District was brought about through the liquidation of the handicrafts and light industry. In 1938, the Poznan District had 33,700 production and service handicraft shops and employed 49,250 persons. In 1955, there were only 12,300, employing only 19,000 persons. In the years 1947 to 1955 they liquidated 5,448 shops which employed 22,500 people.

Classification S E C R E T

4. Even worse results came about in private industry which was diminished during the 6-year plan from 1,007 establishments to 448 and from 6,114 employees to 1,115. This colossal decrease in the Poznan District is all the worse because it included first of all the small provincial centers of food production industries and deprived them of means of existence.

5. The disadvantageous economic policies of the state from 1949 to 1955 in our district had the most dilatorious effect on agriculture which not only failed to reach the pre-WW I production standards but could not even achieve the production standards between the wars.

In quintals (kwintalach)			
	1909/13	1928/37	1950/55
wheat	20.7	17.2	14.5
rye	17.3	14.3	13.2
potatoes	148.0	139.0	125.0

6. In calculating the production of basic grains per individual, it was 259 kilograms less in 1956 than it was in 1938 and 200 kilograms less in the production of potatoes. It is not unusual that Poland is importing grains--that livestock keepers feel the lack of feed because of the transformation of potato raw production. The livestock situation is also inadequate, and it is impossible to increase the number of heads of cattle and diminish the amount of cultivated land.

7. The Direction of Investment and Needs of the Poznan District.

Despite the need for increasing agriculture and its industries, the 6-year plan directed the greater portion of its industrial investment to the heavy machine and metal industry, concentrating it exclusively in Poznan, Ostrow and Pile; to a much lesser degree to coal mining and power production in Konin, Poznan and Kalisz; to the mining of potash in Klodawie and salt in Wapnie and next to the rubber industry in Poznan and Bolechowice near Poznan, a super-phosphate industry in Libon near Poznan and finally to the textile industry, principally clothing, which was the best distributed and therefore had a beneficial influence on the situation in the countryside.

8. These investments did not cover the most realistic needs of the District and were very small in comparison to other districts. In estimating the size of the investment, it is necessary to keep in mind that the Poznan

S E C R E T

S E C R E T

District includes 8.8% of the area of Poland and 8.4% of her built-up area. In the years 1950 to 1955, the national investment in agriculture and industry (in the Poznan District) came to only 4.2% and the industrial hardly 3% of the national amount. According to the economic statistics of the State Economic Planning Commission, other districts had the following portion of the national investment:

Katowice District	27.3%
Krakow "	15.5%
Wroclaw "	7.3%
Warsaw City	6.6%
Rzeszow District	5.4%
Lodz City and District	4.3%
Kielce District	4.1%
Bydgoszcz	3.8%

In calculating on the basis of one inhabitant, the investment in industries in the Poznan District was 1,054 zlotys, while it was 7,100 in 1947 in Katowice; 5,560 zlotys in Krakow; 5,213 zlotys in the city of Warsaw and the average for all of Poland was 2,890 zlotys. In this way, the Poznan District fulfilled its role in the financial investment of other districts. If, at the cost of limiting the investment in heavy industry, more was put into agriculture and the conversion of farm products, and there was more support for the development of handicrafts and light industry, the lack of wheat, meat and dairy products would not be felt, sugar beets would not continuously show a diminishing sugar content, our farm, meat and dairy industries would operate at full capacity, our towns would not fall so low, and the general economic situation would be much better.

Discussions and Prospects for Development

As evident from the above, the principal effort should be directed to the development of agriculture and branches of industry which are directly and indirectly connected with it. It would be necessary to increase the investment to a maximum in this direction.

Bring about conditions for the healthy development of the food products industry which are best suited to the economic and geographical transport conditions and needs of the District and Country.

Which Industries should be developed first?

In the first line of development should be those industries for which the District has its own raw materials. One should take into account not

S E C R E T

S E C R E T

only the utilization of brown coal, but also rock salt and potash as well as more complete utilization of plaster, lime, ceramic clay, sand for glass, gravel, and peat. There are indications from the similarity of oil discoveries at great depths in Greater Poland. Brown coal which was the beginning of a large industrial center in Konin can be found in the Poznan district in an area covering 2,000 square kilometers. It can be found in the areas of Kieratowa, Miedzychodu, Czarnkowa, Chodziezy, Obornik, Czepinia, Kosciarna, Leszna, Gostynia, etc. There are possibilities for expanding the mining of rock salt and the existing mines in Wapnie. Finally, the resolution of the problem of mining potash in Klodawie will have an important influence on agriculture throughout Poland. Another group of industries which should be developed in Poznan District are the industries dependent on foreign raw materials. Into this category fall the vegetable oils of tropical countries. This industry could be expanded in existent and new oil processing plants and refineries.

Wood Industry

In the near future Poland will have to import ~~wood~~, even though it is still being exported. There is a long tradition of ~~furniture~~ production in the Poznan district which should be expanded here.

Cotton and Wool Industry

Despite opinions to the contrary, the cotton and wool industry is very poorly developed in Poland. The Poznan District should play a large role in its development.

S E C R E T